



INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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INDIANA ACADEMIC STANDARDS EVALUATION PROCESS AND TIMELINE

PROCESS OVERVIEW

The Indiana State Board of Education (“SBOE”) and the Indiana Department of Education (“IDOE”) have engaged in a rigorous and transparent process for the evaluation of K-12 standards as required by House Enrolled Act (“HEA”) 1427, enacted in 2013. Under HEA 1427, the Board is required to perform a “comprehensive evaluation” of the Common Core State Standards, which were adopted as Indiana’s academic standards in 2010. In addition, the IDOE has conducted a traditional review of current Math and English/Language Arts (“ELA”) standards. SBOE and IDOE staff have integrated both requirements into a single process to establish a thorough and efficient evaluation of Math and ELA academic concepts, and in order to select rigorous standards that will prepare Hoosier students for college and career following graduation from high school.

The standards evaluation process was designed to align with the General Assembly’s desired outcome: rigorous academic standards developed for Hoosier students, by Hoosiers educators and subject matter experts. The process began with the training of evaluation team members and will conclude with a recommendation to the State Board of Education in April.

The SBOE’s goal is to approve the new academic standards earlier than the July 1 deadline, providing teachers and schools with sufficient time to create new lesson plans and procure new instructional materials prior to the start of the 2014-2015 academic year in late July or early August.

Phase I Evaluation Process – Draft Standards Created: Evaluation teams consist of subject matter experts, including K-12 educators and college professors, who were selected by the IDOE based upon recommendations from school districts as well as their prior experience as members of the IDOE technical/advisory committees and panel on career and college readiness. Following a standards evaluation training session facilitated by Sujie Shin, Assistant Director of the Center on Standards and Assessment Implementation at WestEd, team members conducted an independent evaluation of up to four different sets of standards. On February 13-14, 2014, the evaluation teams met in person during a public meeting to complete a “blind” selection of standards that best aligned with the desired learning outcomes. Standards included in the evaluation process were: Common Core State Standards adopted in 2010, Indiana Academic Standards in Math from 2009 and 2000, Indiana Academic Standards in ELA from 2006, standards from the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, and standards from the National Council of Teachers of English/Language Arts. Standards from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts were also considered by the ELA teams.

During the February 13-14 sessions, evaluation teams divided into groups of four based upon content area and grade levels. Each team did a combination of the following in creating a draft set of standards: (1) selected one of the existing written standards, (2) combined language from two or more versions to achieve maximum clarity, or (3) wrote their own standard, utilizing the most salient points from one or more of the other options. This resulted in a draft set of

academic standards which were posted for public comment from February 19 through March 12. By design, the evaluation teams did not complete articulation or architecture work prior to posting the draft standards. Instead, they focused on each of the learning goals and selected or crafted what they deemed to be the best standards for each goal. Public comments were invited at the individual standard level, and general comments were also requested.

Phase I Public Input and State/National Expert Input: The evaluation reconciliation sessions were open to the public, so that the general public could observe and understand the evaluation team efforts to reach consensus on the first draft of the standards. On February 19, Draft #1 was posted online for a three-week public comment period. Project staff designed an online public input tool that allowed for general comments, as well as specific comments by content area, grade level, strand and individual standard. Instructions included the caveat that neither articulation nor architecture work had been completed. In accordance with HEA 1427, three regional public hearings were conducted during the week of February 24 to allow the SBOE to gather additional input on the first draft. In total, approximately 100 individuals provided public comments during the public hearings. When the online public comment period closed, more than 2,000 public comments had been submitted through the online forum.

A letter was sent to a combination of state and national experts requesting additional input into the first draft of the standards. The experts who accepted this invitation completed their reviews within a short period of time and provided their feedback during public comments or posted their reviews online. Public input was sought intentionally on the first version of the draft standards, due to a desire for ample public input as the evaluation teams developed the standards.

Phase II Evaluation Process – Articulation and National Expert Input: The IDOE content specialists, overseen by the evaluation team leaders, completed articulation of the draft standards by content area at the K-5 and the 6-12 grade levels. Public input received during the hearings as well as through the online forum was evaluated by the content specialists and incorporated into Draft #2 of the standards.

On March 14, Draft #2 was distributed by the evaluation team leaders to the evaluation panel members. The team members had four days to review the second draft individually, and then reconvened on March 19-20 to evaluate Draft #2 and complete articulation across K-12. These sessions were open to the public, and members of the College and Career Ready (“CCR”) panel, consisting of representatives from Indiana’s institutions of higher education as well as industry, including Eli Lilly and Toyota, were invited to observe the evaluation panels as they completed the K-12 articulation and debated additional modifications to the draft.

Also on March 14, Draft #2 was distributed to six national experts who agreed to serve as evaluators under contract with the state. National evaluators were asked to complete their evaluations by March 24 in order to inform the next phase of work.

Phase III Evaluation Process – College and Career Ready Panel Evaluation: The College and Career Ready (“CCR”) panel will convene on March 28 to review the modifications made by the evaluation panels on March 19-20, and also to discuss the reviews completed by national experts. The evaluation team leaders and IDOE content specialists will synthesize the feedback from the national experts and CCR panel, then bring the CCR panel together for a final review of the proposed standards.

Once the standards have been approved by the CCR panel, a final draft will be distributed to the Education Roundtable in advance of its April 21st meeting. The target date to post the recommended set of standards is April 14th.

Any changes resulting from the Education Roundtable meeting will be reflected in the final version of the standards submitted to the State Board of Education. The SBOE is scheduled to meet on April 28 at 9:00 AM for a business meeting devoted solely to standards. Public comments will be accepted at this meeting.

TIMELINE DETAILS

FEBRUARY 2014

February 3

Orientation and Training: 10AM-2PM EST, at the Indiana Government Center South, Conference Room C; 402 W. Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

February 6

State Board of Education Meeting: 2:30-5:30 PM EST, at the Indiana Government Center South Auditorium. Agenda included a discussion of the standards evaluation process.

February 13-14

On-Site Evaluation Reconciliation: February 13, 2014, from 9AM-4PM EST, and February 14, 2014, from 8:30AM-3:30PM EST, at the Indiana Government Center South, Conference Room C; 402 W. Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

February 19 – March 12

Electronic public review of proposed standards: the Indiana Department of Education posted the draft standards on its website and invited public input on the draft standards.

February 20

Indiana Education Roundtable Meeting: 1:30-2:30 PM EST, Indiana Historical Society Auditorium. Agenda included a discussion of the standards evaluation process.

February 24-26

State Board of Education Public Hearings: the State Board of Education hosted three public meetings from 3:00-7:00 PM EST on the following dates and in the following locations:

- 1. February 24 – Sellersburg**
 - Ivy Tech Community College-Southern Indiana
 - Horseshoe Foundation Assembly Center, Ogle Hall, Community Room
- 2. February 25 – Indianapolis**
 - Indiana State Library
 - History Reference Room
- 3. February 26 – Plymouth**
 - Plymouth High School
 - Weidner School of Inquiry Room NT 201

MARCH 2014

February 19 – March 12

CONTINUED: Electronic public review of proposed standards: the Indiana Department of Education posted the draft standards on its website and invited public input on the draft standards.

First Two Weeks of March

Articulation: Initial articulation completed by grades K-5 and by grades 6-12, reflecting public comments and state and national expert evaluations. This work was conducted by the evaluation team leaders and IDOE content specialists.

March 12

State Board of Education Meeting: 9:00 AM-4:00 PM EDT, at the Indiana Government Center South Auditorium. Agenda included an update on the standards evaluation process.

March 19-20

Evaluation Panels Reconvene: A second draft, reflecting grades K-5 and 6-12 articulation as well as public comments, sent to the evaluation teams for individual review. Four sub-groups reconvene for in-person review, and to complete initial K-12 articulation.

March 28

College and Career Ready Panel Meets: College and Career Ready (“CCR”) Panel meets to review the outcome from the March 19-20 evaluation panel sessions, as well as the input on Draft #2 from national evaluators. The CCR panel will suggest other modifications.

APRIL 2014

Early April – Date TBD

College and Career Ready Panel Meets: CCR Panel meets one final time to review the outcome from the March 28 CCR panel meeting, and also to consider any additional national evaluator input received after March 28.

Mid-April – Target Date of April 14

Proposed draft standards posted online.

April 21

Indiana Education Roundtable Meeting: 2:15-3:45 PM EDT, Government Center South, Conference Room CC-A, 300 S. Washington St., Indianapolis, IN. Agenda includes adoption of proposed college and career ready standards.

April 28

State Board of Education Meeting: 9:00 AM-1:00 PM EST, location TBD. Agenda includes adoption of proposed college and career ready standards based on recommendations by the Roundtable.

***Additional information may be found at <http://www.in.gov/sboe/2505.htm>